

own garden trap, at Higher Poynton, which also extends the range by a couple of miles, this time to the south-east. In addition to these, A. Heginbottom, a colleague from work, showed me a specimen, taken at his house light, in Cheadle Hulme, Stockport on 21 September 1999.

Discussion

It would appear from the above sightings that *T. acroxantha* is not only well established throughout the south of the Manchester conurbation and has indeed been so for at least the past decade, but is also an extremely successful colonist, having become one of the most abundant species at suitable sites.

Its status in the north of Manchester is less clear, as I am unaware of anyone trapping in this area. However, on a visit to Bolton Museum during November 1999, I was shown a single specimen by M. G. Prescott, which he had taken in his garden at Bury earlier in the year. Bury lies about 20 miles north of the species nearest known sites in the south of Manchester and I would not be surprised to discover that it was just as common in the areas in between. Although it appears to be extending its range in the area, it has not yet been taken from sites beyond the Manchester conurbation, such as those on the Cheshire Plain.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank those above for the use of their records and to Barry T. Shaw and Kevin McCabe for providing further information during preparation of this paper. I would also like to thank Bill Hardwick for confirming my initial identification of *T. acroxantha*.

References

- Bradley, J.D., 1998. *Checklist of Lepidoptera Recorded from the British Isles*. Privately published.
Slade, A. & Farrar, W., 1999. *Tachystola acroxantha* (Meyrick) (Lep.: Oecophoridae) in Somerset. *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **111**: 232.
Slade, B. E., 1994. *Parocystola acroxantha* Meyrick (Lep.: Oecophoridae) at Berrow in Somerset. *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **106**: 35.

More on unusual micro-moths in Somerset

For nearly ten years the Bristol & District Moth Group has been actively recording in the field and also collating historic records for the region around Bristol and Bath. This area includes parts of Vice-counties 6 (North Somerset) and 34 (West Gloucestershire) and agrees with the region covered by the Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre.

Further to Slade & Farrar (*Ent. Rec.* **111**: 232) the Group has records of *Tachystola acroxantha* (Meyr.) from Weston-super-Mare dating back to 1983 when it was recorded by Martin Evans. Since that time the species has been regularly reported by the same recorder and also by Dixie Dean. Consequently, the 1999

records of Slade & Farrar should not be interpreted as a linear extension of its range from its original Cornish stronghold.

Calamotropha paludella (Hb.) as reported by Slade (*Ent. Rec.* **111**: 210), had an excellent year in 1999. An earlier Somerset record though, is that of a specimen captured by Alan Bone in July 1996 at the Keynsham chocolate factory site (grid reference ST6 569) and sent to Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery for confirmation. The specimen was subsequently exhibited at the annual exhibition of the British Entomological & Natural History Society along with other interesting captures by members of the Group (*Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* **12**:152-153). During 1999, *C. paludella* was also taken by Rick Andrews, Dave Gibbs, Rupert Higgins, John Martin and Andy Pym on a mothing night at Weston Moor Nature Reserve in the Gordano Valley (ST 4473) on 7 July. Subsequently, John Martin also recorded the species in his garden in Pilning, South Gloucestershire (ST 5584) and another was captured on 15 July 1999 in Gwent, at grid reference ST 3485, by Kevin Dupe.

Finally *Monochroa palustrella* Douglas has been recorded on three other occasions in vice-county 6 – on 20 August 1986 at Sand Point (ST 3266) by Martin Evans, 22 September 1995 at a field meeting of the Bristol Group at the Gordano National Nature Reserve (ST4473) and on Weston Moor Nature Reserve (ST 4473) by Dave Gibbs on 7 July 1999.

The Bristol Group is currently working on a publication of the moths of the region which will cover both macros and micros. Records from the former county of Avon would be very gratefully received. My thanks to the members of the Group for permission to quote their records.— RAY BARNETT, City Museum & Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1RL.

***Symphorobius klapaleki* Zeleny (Neur.: Hemerobiidae): a second British record – from South Essex**

On 15 June 1999 at about 5pm, whilst undertaking an insect survey of Larks wood, South Essex (Vice-county 18 at grid reference TQ 382926), I swept a brown lacewing which keyed out as *Symphorobius pellucidus* in Colin Plant's AIDGAP key (1997), except that it had pale antennal scapes and pedicels, a character taking it to *S. klapaleki*, as described in the footnote which also suggested that this species is possibly present in Britain. The specimen was duly passed to Colin Plant who confirmed that this was indeed an example of *S. klapaleki*.

Since the publication of Colin's key, *S. klapaleki* has indeed been added to the British list – from Silwood Park, Berkshire (Whittington, 1998: *Ent. Rec.* **110**: 288 - 289), reared from a pupa attached to a dead oak twig in April 1994 and so the present example is the second British record. Larks Wood is situated within one kilometre of Epping Forest and is a remnant of the ancient forest, although in former times it was managed as an oak and hornbeam coppice, rather than with pollards. It has a strong saproxylic beetle fauna, centred on a handful of sickly beeches and a few of the oak trees. I am not able to say whether the specimen of *S. klapaleki* was associated with dead wood in any way, but it is likely to have been swept from low